

TOKEN TOPICS

of the

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

JANUARY 1983
Issue No. 101

Bill Massey
Editor

JANUARY MEETING Our January meeting will be held, as usual, at the home of Bob Ritterband on January 16. The meeting will begin at 1:30 with the usual swap session, followed by the business meeting and auction. Bob's address is 6576 Colgate Avenue, Los Angeles. For your orientation, Colgate parallels Wilshire Blvd., about half a mile north. Bob lives about half way between Fairfax avenue and La Cienega Blvd. Please call for advice if you have any problems locating the meeting: 938-4504

NOVEMBER MEETING The 154th meeting of CATC was held at the home of our Secretary, Elaine Willihan. The most hotly contested election in recent history resulted in one change in the slate of officers for 1983: Stephen Alpert, President; Bill Massey Vice President; Elaine Willihan, Secretary; Andy Crusen, Treasurer. Present at the November meeting were Steve Alpert, John Barnes, Don Bestle, Andy Crusen, Don Hauser, Bill Kirk, Robert Kubach, Bill Massey, Fred McGinnis, Bob Null, Ed Rico, Wally Shidley, Elanor Smith, Ken Smith, Kirk Smith, and Elaine Willihan. Four new members are welcomed to CATC. James D. Hemphill, who collects Transportation Tokens; Ed Rico-Los Angeles City Tokens; Don Bestle-Gaming Tokens, Amusement & Arcade Tokens; Don Hauser-Video Arcade Tokens, 19th Cent. Political Tokens, and tokens relating to records or phonographs. An auction followed the business meeting with donations from Ben Odesser, Andy Crusen, and Steve Alpert. The CATC treasury realized an increase of \$8.85 from the auction.

DUES! DUES! DUES! DUE! To date, 34 members have paid their 1983 dues, and 58 have not. If you have not sent your check and plan to do so, please get it in the mail today. Dues should be sent to: Elaine Willihan, 516 W. 99th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90044

SNEAK PREVIEW Steve Alpert plans to unveil his most recent contribution to the literary world of exnumia at the January meeting. THE BEST OF TOKEN TOPICS is a 90 page soft bound publication in the format of his auction catalog edited by Steve from the first 100 issues of TOKEN TOPICS. The book is available for \$7.00 and can be ordered by writing Steve at Box 66331, Los Angeles, CA 90066

NATIONAL COLLECTIBLES EXPOSITION-CHICAGO Larry Elman and Alan Weinberg were among the attendees at the winter version of the National Collectibles Expo held in Chicago in December. While the show received mixed reviews, the downtown area is not the place to hold a show in Chicago! The March show returns to Rosemont, IL, and a west Coast Expo is planned in conjunction with the San Diego ANA Convention.

THE BOOK REVIEW
By John M. Barnes

CATC member George Hosek sent me a copy of his Nebraska Trade Token Town Rarity List, Second Edition (1982). Until an item-by-item catalog for Nebraska appears, this list is certainly going to be the definitive guide to rarity of tokens from that state. George has conducted a town census from the collections of thirty-one major collectors of Nebraska tokens, then in tabular arrangement demonstrated the frequency of every known token-issuing town in each collection. This listing is a joy to use because its arrangement allows for speedy reference while also making provision for a full statistical layout. It should be mentioned that George's collection is by far the largest at 7360 different tokens, a remarkable achievement in itself. To further assist specialized collectors, George has also included rarity tables of Brunswick-Balke-Collender Co., multi-town tokens, saloons, military, bi-metal, CCC Camps, good for mirrors, and prison tokens. Even if the reader is not a collector in this series, I would strongly urge the inclusion of this useful book in your library. It may be obtained for only \$5.00 postpaid from the author, 7411 Ideldale Lane, Omaha, NE 68112

ON THE SUBJECT
OF BOOKS

Lloyd Waggaman is cataloging Ingle mavericks and solicits rubbings of any that may be among your identified or unidentified. He has access to a rather extensive research library, and has identified several of these elusive tokens for the writer. It may well be worth your time to send rubbings of any Ingle mavericks to Lloyd Waggaman, Box 195D Route 1, Camby, IN 46113

1984 OLYMPICS

As the 1984 Olympics near, we are sure to be deluged with a wealth of Olympic exnumia. We will try and keep an eye out for new issues that might be of interest and report any interesting issues in Token Topics. First to appear was a series of enameled pins, introduced by a major western bank. I have obtained a number of color brochures picturing each medal and will include as many as possible in this mailing. If, by chance you don't receive one and would like a copy I will eventually be able to obtain more when I can get around to other bank branches in the area. The pins are, by the way, a dollar less over the counter, \$1 of which is tax deductible.

TOKEN TOPICS

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March, 1982
Issue No. 102

Stephen P. Alpert
Editor

LAST CALL FOR 1983 DUES If you haven't submitted your CATC dues for 1983, send the \$3.00 in now, or this will be the final issue of Token Topics you'll receive. As expected, we're losing many members from the \$1 dues hike; don't be one.

MARCH MEETING Elaine Willahan will host our next meeting, Sunday, March 20, 1-5pm, in her home at 516 W.99th St. in Los Angeles, just west of the Harbor Fwy at Century. Bring along your trading stock and something to sell in the auction. Let's have a good turnout.

JANUARY MEETING REPORT Our January meeting hosted by Bob and Molly Ritterband had in attendance: Steve Alpert, John Barnes, Gordon Chamberlin, Andy Crusen, Larry Edell, Larry Elman, Bill Kirk, Bob Kubach, Fred McGinnis, Bob Null, Edward Rico, Wally Shidler, Ken and Eleanor Smith, and Elaine Willahan.

Steve Alpert unveiled the new book "The Best Of Token Topics" which reprints the highlights of the first 100 issues of this bulletin. John Barnes' review on the reverse gives ordering information.

At the Jan. meeting we had a long discussion on the upcoming AVA convention and the National Collectibles Exposition, to be held simultaneously in August just before the ANA convention. Plans for the AVA convention are uncertain at this time; Bob Ritterband may be the chairman, but volunteer help from the CATC is minimal, as any profits will go to the AVA and not us (unlike the previous conventions we organized in past decades).

As usual there was a bustle of trading activity, and an auction netting our treasury \$8.65 (with the help of donations from Jack Smith of Lawrence, Ind.; Fred McGinnis, and Andy Crusen.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY A well-known local so-called dollar is 50 years old this month. The medal was issued to dedicate the beginning of construction of the Santa Monica Breakwater, on March 25, 1933. Pictured on the piece is the Santa Monica Pier, which was just half destroyed by storms.



NEW CATC MEMBERS: We have seven new members to welcome:

- #224 Don Bestle, 4010 W. Victory Blvd., Burbank, CA 91505 (gaming and amusement tokens)
- #225 Don Hauser, 123 N. San Gabriel Blvd., San Gabriel, CA 91775 (video arcade tokens, 19th century political tokens, record & phonograph exnumia)
- #226 Edward Rico, 1458 N. Miller Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90063 (Los Angeles City tokens)
- #227 James D. Hemphill, Box 1321, Lake Oswego, OR 97034 (transportation tokens)
- #228 Thomas Golden, Box 85152, MB 192, San Diego, CA 92138 (merchant, Civil War, transp., military, telephone, amusement, Japan, gambling, casino, food stamp, etc.)
- #229 Ore H. Vacketta, Box 10, Westville, IL 61883 (Illinois trade tokens, transp., American Legion, fair medals, general medals, etc.)
- #230 Wm. Borland, Star Time, Inc., Box 14827, Las Vegas, NV 89114 (dealer in gambling tokens and chips)

See anyone above with common interests with you? Go ahead and correspond. This is one way CATC can benefit its nonlocal members.

**SAMBO'S HITS BOTTOM,
BOUNCES BACK WITH
NEW NAME**

We have been keeping track of the recent vicissitudes of Sambo's restaurants because of the great collector interest in their series

Season's

of wooden tokens. A Sambo's vice president admitted that they were at the bottom of the coffee shop business and that the old name didn't have credibility anymore. The restaurants are being renamed Season's, starting in Santa Monica already, and moving eastward. The change is to be so drastic that customers "would never dream they were in a Sambo's." This is probably the final chapter relative to the Sambo's wooden tokens saga.

LUNG POWER: You probably thought that you knew of every possible way of obtaining transportation tokens for your collection. Well here's one I bet you never tried. I wonder if this technique would work on bus fare boxes.

LOCAL EXONUMIA MANUFACTURER In my Yellow Pages is a single entry under Coin Manufacturers:

Sands Manufacturing Co., 8916 Venice Blvd., Culver City (836-5766). I phoned, and yes he made tokens, so I rushed over in hopes of buying a boxfull of overrun, reject, or old sample pieces. The owner, Ted Sands, told me he's been manufacturing metal tokens and medals for about 35 years, mostly back east. The only samples of his work he had was a small dusty box of about 50 pieces of varied exonumia, in a wide variety of metals, shapes, sizes, and styles. Most were keychain medals (his main product of exonumia). There were also unfinished lapel pins, wing pins, and a few medals. I recall an anniversary medal of a Seattle bank, a Jacques Cousteau keychain medal, and a shiny 1981 Chuck E. Cheese arcade token (identical to most I've seen)! He said he struck thousands in his machine shop (which seemed rather small to me) at about 35¢ each (about 3 times Van Brook's price). He said he does all the work himself: cutting dies, striking tokens, and applying a finish or gold plating. (I wasn't convinced.) He also makes political buttons. He remembered making a few good for tokens back in the 1940's and 1950's.

He has no literature or price list available. His prices for making tokens are about 35¢ each for small ones to \$1 each for dollar size, plus die cutting charges. The nicest token of his I saw is a dollar size gold plated piece for the "Peoples Republic of China" pavilion at the Knoxville worlds fair, picturing a pagoda & 2 pandas on the rev. It doesn't mention the fair, and has a raised ring on the rev. for an incuse legend.

Neither Mr. Sands nor his wife had ever heard of people collecting things like he makes (seems incredible). Most of his business is actually tools, die, stamping and assembly work.

THE BOOK REVIEW

Perhaps a book shouldn't be reviewed by one of its authors, by John M. Barnes but that is what is happening here. I am referring to the

newly published The Best of Token Topics, edited by Steve

Alpert. Steve became aware that many current members of CATC and also the numismatic public does not have access to the considerable body of knowledge of exonumia contained in the first one hundred issues of our publication. To make the collection useful as a reference, Steve eliminated meeting notices and other extraneous material, leaving behind at least a little bit, and sometimes all of every issue. There haven't been many editors since the publication began in September, 1966; they are Robert Ritterband, Robert Kubach, Robert Carter, John Barnes, and Stephen Alpert. These gentlemen wrote about a variety of topics: AVA politics, conventions, Sambo's tokens, museums, travel experiences, Uncle Sam Play Money (a catalog), the story of a world war II woman street car operator, and some of the best discussions of vending machine tokens in print. This 87-page book is available to you postpaid for \$7.00 (California residents please enclose sales tax). Address your request to Stephen Alpert, Box 66331, Los Angeles, California 90066.

Token suckers: Creative subway theft

NEW YORK — Some youths are putting their mouths where their money ought to be by sucking subway tokens out of turnstile slots. Some of the young thieves are getting \$50 to \$100 a day, police said Monday. "It's not a big thing but most people are just awed by how it's done," a police spokesman said. The youths stuff cardboard in the turnstiles, preventing tokens from dropping below a lever 2 inches down and making it possible to suck the tokens out. Or in some cases, they suck out a token before a subway passenger can go through the turnstile and trip the lever.

TOKEN TOPICS

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MAY 1983
Issue No. 103

Bill Massey
Editor

MAY MEETING Elaine Willihan will host our Sunday, May 15 Meeting from about 1 to 5PM at her home at 516 West 99th Street in Los Angeles. Take the Century Boulevard exit from the Harbor Freeway. The address is about 1 block north of Century Boulevard. Elanor Smith has agreed to help with the refreshments. For those out-of-town members who have not had the pleasure of attending one of the meetings at Elaines, I can assure you that the refreshments are a much anticipated item on the agenda!

MARCH MEETING REPORT There was a good turn out for the March meeting held at the home of Elaine Willihan. Attending were Steve Alpert, Larry Edell, John Hamilton, Bill Massey, Andy Crusen, Fred McGinnis, Bob Null, Elaine Willihan, James Garner, Wally Shidler, Floyd Holliday, Robert Ritterband, John Barnes, Elanor Smith and Ken Smith.

Our regular auction was held, with donations from members Steve Alpert, Larry Edell, and Elaine Willihan. Net proceeds to the club from the auction were \$9.25. It might be in order to mention that donations are always welcomed for our auctions, and the proceeds help pay for our mailings and other expenses.

Bob Ritterband made a presentation for the 33d annual convention of the AVA, which will be held in conjunction with the ANA convention in San Diego, August 12-14. The AVA convention is scheduled for the Stardust Hotel and Country Club, adjacent to ANA headquarters at the Town and Country Motel. Among other activities, a ride on the Tiajuana Trolley is scheduled. Business meetings and an auction are included in the price of registration, which is \$26 if made before June 30 or \$30 at the convention. Further details will be contained in the FAREBOX, the official AVA publication.

Jim Garner discussed the recent rash of Mexican token fakes that have appeared on the market. Jim has agreed to do an article on the subject for an upcoming issue of TOKEN TOPICS.

BOOK REVIEW
Bill Massey

At a time when many token catalogs seem to be hastily thrown together and poorly researched, Ray A. Bows has given us a breath of welcomed fresh air with his "U. S. & Allied Military Tokens of Vietnam, 1962-1973." In addition to a well presented catalog, Bows traces the history of Vietnam to the year 938, with emphasis on the French occupation and the events that led to the U. S. involvement in 1961. Profusely illustrated, the catalog contains several maps, showing the location of major units; more than 30 plates illustrating tokens; and illustrations showing medals and wooden nickels used by units in Vietnam. The listings are subdivided by location, abbreviations, designs, units, and specific clubs. In addition, the tokens are identified by the military service issuing the token: Army, Air Force, Allied, Civilian, Marines, Navy, Special Services, or Unknown. Errors and pseudo-Vietnam issues are also covered. The book is available from the author at \$11.50 postpaid. Bows and Mallett Rare Coins, 10610 Bridgeport Way, S. W., Tacoma, WN 98499

A DECEPTIVE
REPLICA

The 1818 North American Token circulated in the United States from 1817-1922 and was predominately found in the newly settled territories that are now the Midwestern States. The original design of this token was taken from a New England cent struck in the late 1700's and has remained a popular design for subsequent American coins. On the occasion of the 1968 Sesquicentennial of the state of Illinois, Moorman Manufacturing Company of Quincy, Illinois commissioned the firm of Curtin & Pease company to produce a medal. The North American token design was chosen because of the date 1818, the year Illinois became a state. The reverse bears an outline of the state of Illinois, and the logo of Moorman's. The tokens were cast in pot metal, then copper plated, and then antiqued. Some 250,000 of the original design were distributed exclusively in

Illinois. Later, the reverse design was changed to a salute to the American Farmer, and another 250,000 medals were distributed in Iowa and Indiana.

So believable is this replica that a well known and widely published cataloguer recently included this modern medal in a catalog under the heading of "19th Century Illinois Storecards."



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JULY, 1983
Issue No. 104

Stephen P. Alpert,
Editor

JULY MEETING: Our summer meeting will again be hosted by Elaine Willahan, at her home at 516 W.99th St. in Los Angeles, near Century & Figueroa, just off the Harbor Freeway. The date is Sunday, July 17, from 1:00 to 5:00 in the afternoon. Bring material to swap or consign to the auction.

There'll be a lot of token activity coming up next month in San Diego, with the AVA and ANA conventions, ATCA meetings, TAMS meeting, a collectibles show, exonumia auctions, etc. So come to our meeting this Sunday for the latest news on these events. Also, coming up locally just one week after our CATC meeting, is the annual token & collectibles show at the Holiday Inn in Fullerton, on Sun. July 24, from 10 to 5. Hope to see you there too.

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome those who have recently joined our association:

Lloyd Andries, Jr., Box 624, Witt, Ill. (collects Ill., Iowa, prison & military)

Boyd Cashman, 10522 Woldrich St., Lake View Terrace, CA 91342 (collects transportation tokens and postcards)

Dick Bestard, Box 465, Midway City, CA 92655 (transp. tokens and postcards)

Ray Bows, 10610 Bridgeport Way S.W., Tacoma, WA 98499

Hector Balderrama, 3295 Clifton Ave., Highland, CA 92346

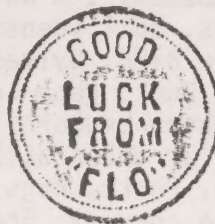
(Over two dozen members were dropped for nonpayment of 1983 dues.)

MAY MEETING REPORT: Thirteen members attended our last meeting at the home of Elaine Willahan: Steve Alpert, John Barnes, Dick Bestard, Boyd Cashman, Andy Crusen, Larry Edell, Bill Massey, Fred McGinnis, Bob Null, Wally Shidler, Ken & Eleanor Smith, and Elaine Willahan; plus guest Judy McGinnis. A larger than usual auction was the feature of the meeting, highlighted by a generous donation of 98 tokens from Norton Steenfott of Eureka, Calif., which enriched our treasury by \$35. Other auction material was donated by Bill Massey and Fred McGinnis. In all, the club netted \$42.15 from the auction and most in attendance obtained something for their collection. By unanimous vote, the Board members and all present voted to double the refreshment budget for each meeting. Someone should strike a medal in honor of Elaine's delicious pies and cakes and all the time and work she devotes to the CATC. You can show your appreciation by saving for Elaine some of the unusual items she collects: candy bar wrappers, odd paper clips, Crackerjack wrappers and toys, sugar packets with restaurant names, and so on - stuff you can regularly obtain at no cost.

FLO'S TOKEN IDENTIFIED

Among the miscellaneous tokens in my current mail bid sale, is the token illustrated here: GOOD LUCK FROM "FLO" /

KEEP SMILING AND FOLLOW THROUGH: Brass, 28mm. I thought it was golf related, but no. Rich Marzian of Louisville, Ky. sent me the story behind this token, and I feel it's interesting enough to get in print. Rich writes: "I can identify the token as being from Louisville, Ky. Flo Farwick was the owner of Tower Lanes, a bowling alley in downtown Louisville. She was an outstanding bowler herself in the 40s and 50s. The government bought the property in the early 60s and erected a new U.S. Government building. Before closing her lanes, Flo had this token struck and presented it to her customers. Flo is now in her 80s and still lives in the Louisville area."



HELLMAN THE BANKER: The accompanying newspaper clipping from the Los Angeles Times, Aug. 16, 1981, is from an article on important businessmen in Los Angeles' history. This is probably the same Hellman as on the fairly common Hellman Commercial Trust And Savings Bank token of 1922. Can anyone supply us with information on the 1922 Pageant of Progress in Los Angeles?



THE MOST POPULAR VIDEO ARCADE TOKENS

By far, the most popular of the modern video arcade tokens are those of Pizza Time Theatre, which picture their rat mascot Chuck E. Cheese. Their popularity comes from the fact that the tokens form a large series: they are dated and many bear the city and state where particular restaurants of the chain are located. In addition there are die varieties of the chain's stock tokens and of some city-state tokens, created by token reorders. Already there are tokens with seven different dates: 1977 through 1983.

As it became too expensive and troublesome for each location to issue its own yearly token, use of the chain's stock tokens has become widespread. The 1983 stock token obverse is very different from preceeding ones. It reads: Smile America Say / (full face view head of rat) / Chuck E. Cheese.

There is another series of tokens that I'm sure will be very popular: that of the Gadgets restaurant chain (headquarters unknown). These fairly recent tokens, made by the Franklin Mint, aren't yet widely known among collectors. Each of the eight tokens in this series pictures the head of a different Warner Bros. Looney Tunes cartoon character. They aren't identified by name on the tokens, and this created some difficulty for the two collectors who reported the set to me. Fortunately I'm an enthusiast of cartoon characters, so I identify them as: Porky Pig, Tweetie Bird, Sylvester the Cat, Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Pepe LePew (the skunk), Yosemite Sam, Foghorn Leghorn (rooster).

Another similar token with the name Gizmos pictures on the reverse four small cartoon heads: Daffy, Porky, Bugs, and Yosemite. The Gadgets and Gizmos tokens could be issued by the same company. Specimens have been obtained from their restaurants in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

The cartoon characters of Jay Ward (Bullwinkle Moose, Rocky the flying squirrel, mountie Dudley Do-Right, etc.) are featured at the Bullwinkle's restaurant chain headquartered in Santa Clara, Calif. I'm aware of just one token, the Moose Money token picturing the head of Bullwinkle, issued at the Santa Clara restaurant. Bullwinkle's plans to franchise in the U.S. and overseas.

There seems to be a trend for the restaurant-video arcade chains to be associated with cartoon characters - either their own new creations or established movie and TV cartoon characters. These tokens should all be very collectable.

By 1868 Isaias W. Hellman had been a merchant in Los Angeles for 10 years, prosperous enough, legend goes, to have the only safe in town. For years ranchers had kept their cash from sales of cattle, sheep, hides and tallow in his safe.

Finally Hellman decided to open a bank, which he did in partnership with Francis Temple, brother of Los Angeles pioneer John Temple.

Earlier in the year, however, John A. Hayward of San Francisco and former Gov. John Downey—the very same who trudged into town with Charlie Ducommun—had formed a bank called Hayward & Co.

By 1871 the two banks had consolidated, with \$125,000 in capital from Hellman and Temple's firm and \$100,000 from Hayward & Co. In the process of forming the merged Farmers & Merchants Bank, the partners switched, pairing Downey as president and Hellman as cashier—with Charles Louis Ducommun among the leading citizens named as trustees.

From that time on the history of Security Pacific National Bank, into which Farmers & Merchants eventually was merged, parallels the history of Southern California.

In the '20s, as Los Angeles grew, so did the bank, becoming Security-First National Bank of Los Angeles in 1929.

After World War II, as orange groves and bean fields turned into housing tracts, the bank acquired smaller local banks in Orange, Riverside and San Diego counties. It moved into northern areas and, as Southern California became increasingly important in international trade, it established foreign locations in South America, Europe and Asia.

If Los Angeles has had problems with smog and traffic, Security Pacific has had a \$10.2-million theft by computer and a series of prime interest rate changes—in 1976, for instance, it cut the prime rate from 7% to 6¾%.

But it has grown from a capital of \$225,000 in 1871 to \$30 billion in assets for its parent company, Security Pacific Corp.

TOKEN TOPICS

SEPTEMBER 1983
Issue No. 105

of the
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

Bill Massey
Editor

JULY MEETING The July meeting was held at the home of famous refreshments again, with Elaine's usual hospitality. Attending were: Steve Alpert, John Barnes, Dick Besterd, Don Bestly, Boyd Cashman, Andy Crusen, Jim Garner, Bill Kirk, Bill Massey, Bob Null, Edward Rico, Frank Roselinski, Robert Ritterband, Wally Shidler, Elanor Smith, and Elaine Willihan.

Our auction netted the club \$15.32, thanks to a donation by Larry Edell.

The September 18 meeting will again be held at the home of Elaine Willihan. The address is 516 W. 99th Street which is just a few doors north of Figueroa, and a few blocks from the Century Blvd. exit off the Harbor Freeway.

DONT MISS THIS!! Following our July meeting the Executive Board met briefly to discuss distribution of the club's remaining stock of California 450-T transportation tokens which we issued in 1975 for the annual AVA meeting. This is an oxidized bronze piece, with a fine picture of the Queen Mary at Long Beach Harbor. It was decided that we should offer the remaining stock of these tokens to CATC members for \$5.00 each plus a self addressed stamped envelope. To give all of our members a chance, there is a firm limit of TWO tokens per person while they last. Include 37¢ postage if you want two. Send your order and payment quickly to Elaine Willihan before all these gems are gone. Remember: For our gang only!

WERE YOU THERE? Last month's annual convention in San Diego of the American Vecturists drew a good turnout of our CATC members interested in transportation tokens. Those registered included: John Barnes, Richard Besterd, Harriet Carter, Robert Carter, Boyd Cashman, Andy Crusen, Larry Edell, James Hemphill, William Kirk, Robert Kubach, Bill Massey, Bruce Pasarow, Joel Reznick, Robert Ritterband, Elanor Smith, Kenneth Smith, Kirk Smith, Ore Vacketta, and Elaine Willihan. Our 19 members represented about one-fourth of the collectors participating in the meeting.

NATIONAL COLLECTIBLES EXPOSITION Most of the AVA attendees also had the opportunity to visit the NCE as it moved west for the first time. Many eastern dealers followed this popular show to San Diego with a large offering of collectibles of all types. The next National Collectibles Exposition will be an expanded affair to be held in Philadelphia, October 12-16.

A NOVEL OFFERING Ed Saunders, a well known Oregon collector is offering a rather unique service to token collectors. For \$3.50, postpaid, Ed will make a rubber stamp of your "favorite" token. An example of Ed's work appears to the right. These stamps are great for envelopes, letterheads, and business cards. Ed's address is 5228 S. E. Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon, 97215



THANKS To Robert Ritterband for printing the CATC Envelopes.

UPCOMING The IKO-TAMS Token and Medal show will be held in Englewood, Ohio, Saturday and Sunday, October 22, and 23. The IKO-TAMS organization is one of the more active token groups in the country, and this is one of the major shows of the year. I have had the pleasure of attending two previous shows, and the token activity is outstanding!

ATCO, the Active Token Collectors Organization is planning a get together for the last week-end in October. This meeting is scheduled for Denver, and could be the beginning of an important token event. For information, contact Clay Welty, 8410 W. 108th Street, Broomfield, Colorado 80020

*** MEMBERS attending the September meeting will have first choice of the CA 450-T tokens, with mail orders being next in priority. We have some 50-60 tokens available. One specimen sold for \$10 at a recent AVA auction! Maybe this is your incentive to attend the September meeting?

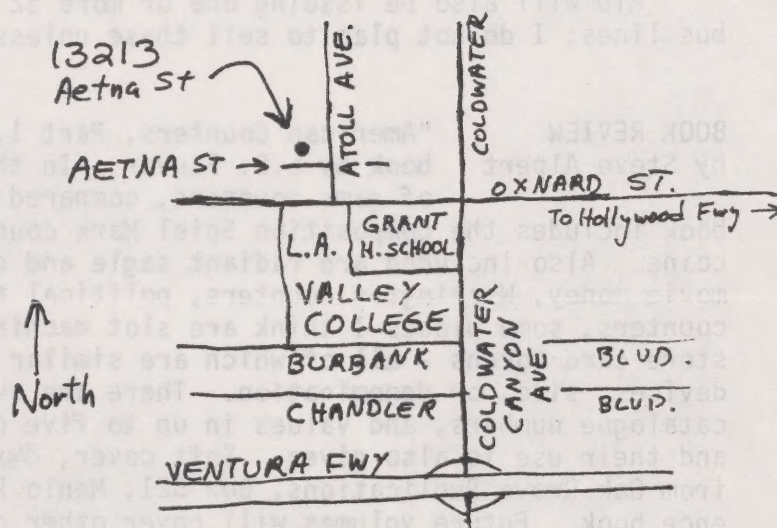
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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

NOVEMBER, 1983
Issue No. 106
Stephen P. Alpert,
Editor

NOVEMBER MEETING: We're moving to the San Fernando Valley for our Nov. 20th meeting, Sunday afternoon beginning 1PM, at the home of Frank & Norma Roselinsky, 13213 Aetna St., in Van Nuys, near L.A. Valley College. Use map at right. Be sure to use Atoll Ave. off Oxnard St. to get to Frank's short stretch of Aetna St.; turn left onto Aetna and look for CATC sign on tree in front of Frank's house. If confused, phone Frank at 781-5509. I hope all our regulars attend; bring material to swap and to donate or consign to the meeting's auction.



1984 DUES: It's that time again. Those attending the meeting can pay in person; all others please mail your \$3.00 dues to Elaine Willahan, 516 W. 99th St., Los Angeles, CA 90044. Do it now, and include comments or an ad or announcement which will be read at our next meeting, if you wish.

NEW STREETCAR STAMPS The post office recently issued 4 commem. 20¢ stamps picturing old streetcars and horsecars. Transportation token collectors should really like them. Elaine has used these stamps on the envelopes for this issue of Token Topics. Stock up now while they're still available from the post office. I'm still waiting for a stamp honoring trade tokens; could happen someday. Reminds me of John Barnes' idea of creating a new Presidential cabinet position, Secretary of Exonomia, whose primary duty would be attributing mavericks.

SEPTEMBER MEETING NEWS Elaine Willahan hosted our previous meeting. In attendance were Steve Alpert, John Barnes, Dick Bestard, Boyd Cashman, Andy Crusen, Larry Edell, Floyd Holliday, Bill Kirk, Bill Massey, Ed Rico, Wally Shidler, Ken Smith, Kirk Smith, Eleanor Smith, Elaine Willahan, and guest Chuck Short. The small auction netted the club \$2.30. Andy reported out treasury at \$360.49, so we're in good shape for late in the year. The material donated to our meeting auctions have really helped. Discussions at the meeting centered around the recent AVA convention and the Collectibles Expo in San Diego; and about the new Olympic RTD transportation tokens (see below).

OLYMPIC SOUVENIR BUS TOKENS The Southern California Rapid Transit District will be issuing a set of 24 different 50¢ bus fare tokens, housed in a holder or case. The tokens feature 23 sports and the Olympic torch. See the Nov. 9 issue of COIN WORLD for articles and illustrations. At our Sept. meeting, it was stated that the tokens would be aluminum and dollar size; Coin World states they are brass and about half dollar size. Sales of the 24 piece sets were scheduled to begin Nov. 1, but due to delays they will be released in January at the earliest. Face value of a set is \$12; the wholesale price will be \$13 or \$13.72 per set; the suggested retail price will be \$21 to \$24.95. Single specimens will be sold for 50¢ each (there could be a one roll minimum

purchase), but RTD will be issuing one or two of the tokens in low numbers to make it very difficult to assemble a set this way. This information is as of Nov. 7, and is subject to change. I am considering buying sets wholesale and selling them at or below the lowest suggested retail price postpaid. The minimum wholesale purchase from RTD is two cases (48 sets per case). Anyone interested in buying one or more sets from me, let me know now how many you want. Write: Stephen P. Alpert, P.O. Box 66331, Los Angeles CA 90066; send no money now. I would need requests totalling over the minimum 96 sets; otherwise I wouldn't handle them. (Discounts to dealers & orders of over 10 sets.)

RTD will also be issuing one or more \$2 Olympic tokens for use on special Olympic bus lines; I do not plan to sell these unless I receive overwhelming requests for them.

BOOK REVIEW "American Counters, Part 1, Double Eagle & Eagle Gold" is the latest by Steve Alpert book by L.B. Fauver. In this work, Benj Fauver has expanded the scope of game counters, compared to earlier works of Fuld and Rulau. The book includes the Composition Spiel Mark counters that are copies of US \$10 and \$20 gold coins. Also included are radiant eagle and denomination counters, California counters, movie money, Washington counters, political tokens, miscellaneous spiel mark and game counters, some pieces I think are slot machine jackpot tokens, and many 19th century store card tokens - all of which are similar to \$10 or \$20 gold pieces in design or devices, size, or denomination. There are over 500 excellent enlarged photographs, catalogue numbers, and values in up to five conditions. Historical data on the counters and their use is also given. Soft cover, 8½x11, 100 pages, glossy paper, \$9.95 postpaid from Oak Grove Publications, Box 521, Menlo Park, CA 94025. This is a worthwhile reference book. Future volumes will cover other denominations. I anxiously await them.

BOOK REVIEW The Second Edition of Trade Tokens of Illinois
BY BILL MASSEY by Ore H. Vacketta has just been released.
This edition has been expanded from 330 to 550 pages, and represents a major continued effort in listing the large number of tokens from this widely collected state. While many of the introductory articles from the First Edition have been retained, several additions are noted, including a section on Illinois Good-For Mirrors, by Rich Hartzog. Many previously unlisted towns have been added, and the Chicago section in particular has increased from 88 to 169 pages. The book is currently advertised by several Midwestern dealers at \$29.95